

Family of Field Food Service



The Marine Corps is currently fielding the Field Food Service System (FFSS), which is the replacement for the 1950's vintage field mess capabilities of the M-1959 field range and immersion water heater. The FFSS consists of three 8x8x20 ISO containers (kitchen/sanitation unit) capable of preparing a minimum of 850 meals twice daily in a static environment.

The Marine Corps will begin the fielding of a Tray Ration Heating System (TRHS) enhancement package that will include accessory items that permit the full range of food preparation methods such as boiling, simmering, steaming, frying, grilling, roasting, baking and deep frying. These accessory items shall be SL3 components, and configured to fit into a single quadruple container (QUADCON) with the end item itself. The QUADCON

will be modified as a dual-purpose container that can also be used as a tactical refrigeration unit. The TRHS enhancement package will be capable of providing a minimum of 300 meals twice daily in a non-static environment, taking advantage of all rations available in the DOD family of operational rations.

The Marine Corps will also begin the fielding of a Mobile Kitchen Unit (MKU) that will further bridge the gap in capability between the FFSS and the TRHS. The MKU consist of food preparation counters, cooking equipment and serving lines. All equipment is situated under a hard, ventilated roof that is raised during operation. The MKU can be enclosed with screened or unscreened canvas-like material. The MKU is capable of providing a minimum of 500 meals twice daily in a non-static environment, taking advantage of all rations available in the DOD family of operational rations.

The fielding of this new equipment will allow the Marine food service specialists to work more efficiently in a field environment and will support designated maneuver elements throughout the Marine Air Ground Task Force. The combination of the FFSS, MKU, and TRHS w/enhancement package will allow the commander a balanced application of resources to best support the combat-ready Marine.

Fielding of 52 FFSS began in FY 2003 and continues through FY 2007. Fielding of 42 TRHS enhancement packages will begin in FY 2006 and continue through FY 2008. Fielding of 48 MKU will begin in FY 2006 and continue through FY 2010.